

**MINUTES
WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

**West Hollywood City Hall
1st floor Community Conference Room
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, California 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Women's Advisory Board Meeting was called to order by Boardmember de Silva at 7:05pm.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** Read by Boardmember de Silva.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Lead by Boardmember de Silva.
4. **ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY APPOINTED BOARDMEMBERS:**
Councilmember Byers administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Women's Advisory Board Member Debra Torok.
Staff Liaison Larissa Fooks administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Women's Advisory Board Member Helane Wilbourne.
Staff Liaison Larissa Fooks administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Women's Advisory Board Member Melanie Elman.
5. **ROLL CALL:**
PRESENT: Angela de Silva, Debra Torok, Olivia Lane
Helane Wilbourne, Melanie Elman, Kat Lockwood (arrived at 7:26pm)
ABSENT: Sajji Lazarus
ALSO PRESENT: Staff Liaison, Larissa Fooks
Recording Secretary, Amy Valdepeña
6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**
Approved the Meeting agenda for May 25, 2023. Motion by Boardmember Lane, seconded by Boardmember Torok and approved.

***Item 7 was tabled*
7. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**
Meeting minutes for March 23, 2023.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eva Angeloff, West Hollywood's Arts' Grants Coordinator gave a brief update on grant opportunities. The deadline to apply for a grant will be July 1st.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PRESENTATION FROM FREE TO THRIVE

Jamie Beck, President and Managing Attorney, Free to Thrive, an organization that advances justice and transforms the legal system for human trafficking survivors through legal services, education and policy advocacy gave a brief presentation.

ACTION: Received and filed.

B. HOW TO HACK BIRTH CONTROL SCREENING

Sassy Mohen director of *How To Hack Birth Control*, which shines a light on how to navigate and take charge in today's contraception universe gave brief presentation. It is a 27-minute pilot that has been a part of 50 screen festivals and has won many awards.

ACTION: Boardmember de Silva made a motion to endorse and seconded by Boardmemeber Lane

C. WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

The Board discussed ideas for the City's annual commemoration of Women's Equality Day on August 26, the anniversary of women winning the right to vote in the United States. A subcommittee will be formed of Boardmember Torok, Boardmember Lockwood, Boardmember Wilbourne, and Boardmember De Silva.

ACTION: Boardmember Lockwood made a motion to create a subcommittee and seconded by Boardmember Wilbourne.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

The Board received a report from the Legislative Subcommittee and staff regarding legislative advocacy efforts on the Board's priority issues. Next week is the deadline.

ACTION: Received and filed.

B. NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Boardmember de Silva gave a brief wrap up report regarding the City's National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month outreach activity event held on April 28, 2023. If you'd like to view the picture you can see them on WeHo Flickr.

ACTION: Received and filed.

C. SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAMS

The board discussed possible dates to site visits to the UCLA Rape Treatment Center. Possible dates are June 10th, June 17th and June 24th. The board agreed on June 24th. It will be around noon for about an hour and a half.

ACTION: Received and filed.

D. CALIFORNIA NOW CONFERENCE STATE

Boardmember Lane gave a brief update on the California NOW 2023 State Conference coordinated by the California Chapter of the National Organization for Women held on May 20, 2023, that was co-sponsored by the City and endorsed by the Board.

ACTION: Received and filed.

11. SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

The Board will receive feedback and updates regarding the following Board initiated and or/co-sponsored activities.

A. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA COMMISSIONS FOR WOMEN, ACCW

12. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Karen Eyres from West Hollywood welcomed the new members to WAB. Karen thanked the board for their support in the California NOW Conference held on May 20, 2023. She expressed interest in becoming the liaison to WAB representing the Human Services Commission.

13. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD:

Boardmember Lane, attended the California NOW Conference, the event went great. She's excited for summer and PRIDE.

Boardmember Lockwood, mentioned she caught COVID for the first time, but she is healthy and feeling great. She's really excited for WEHO Pride and will be at the festivities. She is also happy to work with new the Boardmembers.

Boardmemeber Torok, is excited to join and help.

Boardmember Wilbourne, is happy and can see that a lot can be done.

Boardmember Elman, informed the board she will continue encouraging the Board to exercise and meet up for Free workouts.

Boardmember de Silva, excited for the new members and is happy with all the input during the meeting. She's eight months pregnant and hopes she can attend the July meeting.

14. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Staff Liaison Larissa Fooks informed the board the City will have a float for PRIDE and they can either walk and or ride the float during PRIDE. A few booths that will be at PRIDE two will be a City Booth and TAB Booth. Next meeting, a work plan will be included in your next meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

The Women’s Advisory Board adjourned at 9:13pm to its regular meeting, which will be on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 7:00pm at West Hollywood City Hall, 1st Floor Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE WOMEN’S ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 22ND DAY OF JUNE 2023.

DocuSigned by:

Sajji Lazarus

SAJJI LAZARUS, VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

AMY VALDEPENA

AMY VALDEPENA, RECORDING SECRETARY